

Application No. 09/670,900
Amendment Dated August 13, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 13, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 13, 34, 53, 74, 95, and 116. Please cancel claims 2, 5, 18, 19, 38-40, 57-59, 78-80, 99-101, and 120-122. Please add new claims 129-134. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of this application.

Listing of Claims:

~~AMENDED~~ 1. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer an item with restricted transferability, comprising:

receiving a request to transfer the item from the first consumer, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the item and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the item;

requesting authorization to transfer the item from a provider of the item;

presenting information on the item to a second consumer in [[a]] the consumer selectable interface;

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receiving from the second consumer one of an
offer to purchase the item when the consumer selectable
interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the item
when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface;
and

transferring the item from the first consumer to
the second consumer in response to receiving the offer to
purchase or the bid from the second consumer that meets the
transfer criterion.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, further comprising:

contacting the provider to verify whether the first consumer possesses the item.

4. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, further comprising:

notifying the first consumer whether the provider authorized or denied the transfer.

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5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, further comprising:

voiding the item with respect to the first consumer; and

reissuing the item to the second consumer.

7. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, wherein transferring the item from the first consumer to the second consumer comprises:

providing the first consumer with an opportunity to send the item to an intermediary; and

providing the second consumer with an opportunity to send a payment to the intermediary.

8. (Original) The method defined in claim 7, further comprising charging at least one of the first consumer, the second consumer, the provider with a fee.

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9. (Original) The method defined in claim 8 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

10. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, wherein transferring the item from the first consumer to the second consumer comprises:

providing the first consumer with an opportunity directly to send the item to the second consumer; and

providing the second consumer with an opportunity directly to send a payment to the first consumer.

11. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, further comprising providing the provider with an opportunity to place additional restrictions on the item.

12. (Original) The method defined in claim 11 wherein the additional restrictions is at least one of a minimum transfer price, maximum number of items, and a contract extension.

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13. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer an item to a second consumer, the method comprising:

receiving a request to sell the item from the first consumer, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the item and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the item;

requesting authorization to transfer the item from a provider of the item;

receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item from the provider of the item;

implementing the restrictions with respect to the item;

presenting information on the item to the second consumer in [[a]] the consumer selectable interface;

receiving from the second consumer one of an offer to purchase the item when the consumer selectable interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the item

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when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface;
and

arranging for the transfer of the item from the
first consumer to the second consumer in response to receiving
the offer to purchase or the bid from the second consumer that
meets the transfer criterion.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising requesting authentication information from the first consumer prior to receiving a request to sell the item from the first consumer.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item comprises setting a minimum price for the item.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item comprises setting a maximum number of items that may be sold.

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17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein implementing the restrictions comprises restricting the presenting information on the item to a select group of consumers.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving a bid to purchase the item from the second consumer in response to presenting information on the item.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising receiving acceptance of the bid by the first consumer.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 further comprising requesting authentication information from the second consumer prior to arranging for the transfer of the item from the first consumer to the second consumer.

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23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the item to the provider; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising, in response to the provider receiving the item from the first consumer and the second consumer making the payment, providing for the provider to send the item to the second consumer.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer upon the provider receiving the item from the first consumer.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

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27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the item to the second consumer; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

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32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31
wherein the fee is a flat fee.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31
wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

AMENDED
PLC 34. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer an item to a second consumer, the method comprising:

receiving a request to sell the item from the first consumer, wherein the request includes an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the item and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the item;

requesting authorization to transfer the item from a provider of the item in response to receiving the request;

receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item from the provider of the item;

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implementing the restrictions with respect to the item;

presenting information on the item to a select group of consumers the second consumer in the consumer selectable interface upon receiving authorization from the provider;

receiving a bid to purchase the item from the second consumer in the select group of consumers;

receiving acceptance of the bid by the first consumer; and

arranging for the transfer of the item from the first consumer to the second consumer.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further comprising requesting authentication information from the first consumer prior to receiving a request to sell the item from the first consumer.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item comprises setting a minimum price for the item.

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37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item comprises setting a maximum number of items that may be sold.

38-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising requesting authentication information from the second consumer prior to arranging for the transfer of the item from the first consumer to the second consumer.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the item to the provider; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42 further comprising, in response to the provider receiving the

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item from the first consumer and the second consumer making the payment, providing for the provider to send the item to the second consumer.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer upon the provider receiving the item from the first consumer.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

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instructing the first consumer to send the item to the second consumer; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

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~~MENDED~~ 53. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer an item with restricted transferability to a second consumer, the method comprising:

receiving a request to sell the item from the first consumer, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the item and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the item;

contacting a provider of the item with respect to the transfer of the item;

receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item from the provider of the item;

implementing the restrictions with respect to the item;

presenting information on the item to a ~~select group of consumers~~ the second consumer in the consumer selectable interface;

receiving from the second consumer one of an offer to purchase the item when the consumer selectable interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the item

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when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface;
and

arranging for the transfer of the item from the
first consumer to the second consumer ~~in the select group of~~
~~consumers in response to receiving the offer to purchase or the~~
~~bid from the second consumer that meets the transfer criterion.~~

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53
further comprising requesting authentication information from
the first consumer prior to receiving a request to sell the item
from the first consumer.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53
wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item
comprises setting a minimum price for the item.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53
wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the item
comprises setting a maximum number of items that may be sold.

57-59. (Cancelled)

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60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 further comprising receiving a bid to purchase the item from the second consumer in response to presenting information on the item.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60 further comprising receiving acceptance of the bid by the first consumer.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 further comprising requesting authentication information from the second consumer prior to arranging for the transfer of the item from the first consumer to the second consumer.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the item to the provider; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

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64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 further comprising, in response to the provider receiving the item from the first consumer and the second consumer making the payment, providing for the provider to send the item to the second consumer.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer upon the provider receiving the item from the first consumer.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

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69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein arranging for the transfer of the item comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the item to the second consumer; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the item.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

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74. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer a sporting event ticket to a second consumer, the method comprising:

receiving a request to sell the sporting event ticket from the first consumer, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the sporting event ticket and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the sporting event ticket;

contacting a provider of the sporting event ticket with respect to the transfer of the sporting event ticket;

receiving restrictions on the transfer of the sporting event ticket from the provider of the sporting event ticket;

implementing the restrictions with respect to the sporting event ticket;

presenting information on the sporting event ticket to a ~~select group of consumers~~ the second consumer in the consumer selectable interface;

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receiving from the second consumer one of an offer to purchase the sporting event ticket when the consumer selectable interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the sporting event ticket when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface; and

arranging for the transfer of the sporting event ticket from the first consumer to the second consumer in the select group of consumers in response to receiving the offer to purchase or the bid from the second consumer that meets the transfer criterion.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 further comprising requesting authentication information from the first consumer prior to receiving a request to sell the sporting event ticket from the first consumer.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the sporting event ticket comprises setting a minimum price for the sporting event ticket.

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77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the sporting event ticket comprises setting a maximum number of sporting event tickets that may be sold.

78-80. (Cancelled)

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 further comprising receiving a bid to purchase the sporting event ticket from the second consumer in response to presenting information on the sporting event ticket.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81 further comprising receiving acceptance of the bid by the first consumer.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 further comprising requesting authentication information from the second consumer prior to arranging for the transfer of the sporting event ticket from the first consumer to the second consumer.

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84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein arranging for the transfer of the sporting event ticket comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the sporting event ticket to the provider; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the sporting event ticket.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84 further comprising, in response to the provider receiving the sporting event ticket from the first consumer and the second consumer making the payment, providing for the provider to send the sporting event ticket to the second consumer.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 84 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer upon the provider receiving the sporting event ticket from the first consumer.

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87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74 wherein arranging for the transfer of the sporting event comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the sporting event ticket to the second consumer; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the sporting event ticket.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer.

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92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 91 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

95. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a first consumer to transfer a concert ticket to a second consumer, the method comprising:

receiving a request to sell the concert ticket from the first consumer, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the concert ticket and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the concert ticket;

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contacting a provider of the concert ticket with respect to the transfer of the concert ticket;

receiving restrictions on the transfer of the concert ticket from the provider of the concert ticket;

implementing the restrictions with respect to the concert ticket;

presenting information on the concert ticket to a ~~select group of consumers~~ the second consumer in the consumer selectable interface;

receiving from the second consumer one of an offer to purchase the concert ticket when the consumer selectable interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the concert ticket when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface; and

arranging for the transfer of the concert ticket from the first consumer to the second consumer ~~in the select group of consumers~~ in response to receiving the offer to purchase or the bid from the second consumer that meets the transfer criterion.

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96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising requesting authentication information from the first consumer prior to receiving a request to sell the concert ticket from the first consumer.

97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the concert ticket comprises setting a minimum price for the concert ticket.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 wherein receiving restrictions on the transfer of the concert ticket comprises setting a maximum number of concert tickets that may be sold.

99-101. (Cancelled)

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising receiving a bid to purchase the concert ticket from the second consumer in response to presenting information on the concert ticket.

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103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further comprising receiving acceptance of the bid by the first consumer.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising requesting authentication information from the second consumer prior to arranging for the transfer of the concert ticket from the first consumer to the second consumer.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 wherein arranging for the transfer of the concert ticket comprises:

instructing the first consumer to send the concert ticket to the provider; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the concert ticket.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105 further comprising, in response to the provider receiving the concert ticket from the first consumer and the second consumer

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making the payment, providing for the provider to send the concert ticket to the second consumer.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer upon the provider receiving the concert ticket from the first consumer.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 108 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 108 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 wherein arranging for the transfer of the concert ticket comprises:

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instructing the first consumer to send the concert ticket to the second consumer; and

providing for the second consumer to make a payment for the concert ticket.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 111 further comprising providing for the first consumer to receive at least part of the payment from the second consumer.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112 further comprising providing for the provider to receive a fee from the payment from the second consumer.

114. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 113 wherein the fee is a flat fee.

115. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 113 wherein the fee is a percentage of the payment.

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~~MENDED~~ 116. (Currently Amended) An electronic trading arrangement for enabling a first consumer to transfer an item to a second consumer, the arrangement comprising:

a provider system;

a transfer system;

a first consumer computer

~~a plurality of at least one~~ second consumer computer[[s]], and

a communication network that interlinks the provider system, the transfer system, the first consumer computer, and ~~the plurality of at least one~~ second consumer computer[[s]], wherein the transfer system is configured:

(a) to receive data from the first consumer computer relating to a request to transfer the item, wherein the request includes a transfer criterion and an interface selected by the first consumer, the consumer selectable interface comprising one of an advertising interface to advertise availability of the item and a bidding interface to solicit bids for the item,

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(b) to transmit data to the provider system requesting authorization to transfer the item based on receipt of the request data,

(c) to receive data from the provider system relating to restrictions placed on the transfer of the item;

(d) to implement the restrictions with respect to the item;

(e) to present data relating to information on the item to a ~~select group of consumers at the plurality of~~ second consumer computer[s] in the consumer selectable interface, and

(f) to receive from the second consumer one of an offer to purchase the item when the consumer selectable interface is the advertising interface and a bid for the item when the consumer selectable interface is the bidding interface, and

(g) to arrange for the transfer of the item from the first consumer to the second consumer in the select group of consumers in response to receiving the offer to

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purchase or the bid from the second consumer that meets the transfer criterion.

117. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system comprises a database to store information received from the first consumer computer, the plurality of second consumer computer, and the provider system.

118. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system is configured to receive restrictions that set a minimum price for the item.

119. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system is configured to receive restrictions that set a maximum number of items that may be sold.

120-122. (Cancelled)

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123. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system is further configured to receive data from the second consumer indicating a bid to purchase the item.

124. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 123 wherein the transfer system is further configured to receive data from the first consumer indicating acceptance of the bid to purchase the item from the second consumer.

125. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system comprises an internet web page server.

126. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system, the first consumer computer, and the plurality of second consumer computers form part of a single server.

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127. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system, the first consumer computer, and the plurality of second consumer computers are distributed across multiple servers.

128. (Previously Presented) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the communication network comprises one of an Internet, an intranet, a public data network, a private data network, a wireless network, a cable network, and a dial-up connection.

129. (New) The electronic trading arrangement of claim 116 wherein the transfer system is configured to receive transfer criterion that sets at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.

130. (New) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the transfer criterion comprises at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.

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131. (New) The method defined in claim 13 wherein the transfer criterion comprises at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.

132. (New) The method defined in claim 53 wherein the transfer criterion comprises at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.

133. (New) The method defined in claim 74 wherein the transfer criterion comprises at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.

134. (New) The method defined in claim 95 wherein the transfer criterion comprises at least one of a sale price and a sale duration.